

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A call screening method suitable for a cordless telephone system having a base station operable in a broadcast mode and a standard mode communicatively coupled to a plurality of mobile units, comprising:

setting the base station in the broadcast mode;

signaling that an incoming call by a caller has been received by the base station;

substantially simultancously,

recording an incoming message, and

broadcasting the incoming message to a plurality of mobile units;

determining if one of the plurality of mobile units, as a callee, desires to initiate a conversation with the caller based upon the incoming message;

setting the base station to a standard mode when it is determined that one of the plurality of mobile units desires to converse with the caller; and

initiating the conversation only between the callee and the caller.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

broadcasting the incoming message from the base station during a single time slot of a time division;

receiving the incoming message at the plurality of mobile units; and

converting the incoming message into sound by the plurality of mobile units.

3. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

placing the plurality of mobile units in a receiving mode.

4. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 3, wherein the placing the plurality of mobile units in a receiving mode comprises synchronizing the plurality of mobile units to the single time slot.

5. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 4, wherein setting the base station to the broadcast mode comprises designating the single time slot.

6. (currently amended) The method, as recited in claim 4 ~~claim 5~~, wherein at least one of the plurality of mobile units is a hands free unit, wherein converting the audio message into sound by the hands free unit is automatic, and wherein the placing of the plurality of mobile units in a receiving mode places the plurality of mobile units in a receive only mode.

7. (currently amended) The method, as recited in claim 6, further comprising:
originating a broadcast origination signal by the portable unit associated with the callee at an additional mobile unit;
transmitting a the broadcast origination signal that includes the audio message from the portable unit associated with the callee at an additional mobile unit to the base part; and
~~transmitting the audio message from the additional mobile unit to the base part.~~

8. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 7, wherein placing the plurality of mobile units in a receive only mode, comprises turning on only speakers of the plurality of mobile units without turning on microphones of the plurality of mobile units.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein setting the base station to the standard mode comprises synchronizing those plurality of mobile units not desiring to converse with the caller to another time slot that is different than the single time slot.

10. (new) Computer program product for providing a call screening method suitable for a cordless telephone system having a base station operable in a broadcast mode and a standard mode communicatively coupled to a plurality of mobile units, comprising:

computer code for setting the base station in the broadcast mode;

computer code for signaling that an incoming call by a caller has been received by the base station;

computer code for substantially simultaneously for recording an incoming message and broadcasting the incoming message to a plurality of mobile units;

computer code for determining if one of the plurality of mobile units, as a callee, desires to initiate a conversation with the caller based upon the incoming message;

computer code for setting the base station to a standard mode when it is determined that one of the plurality of mobile units desires to converse with the caller;

computer code for initiating the conversation only between the callee and the caller; and
computer readable medium for storing the computer code.

11. (new) Computer program product as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

computer code for broadcasting the incoming message from the base station during a single time slot of a time division;

computer code for receiving the incoming message at the plurality of mobile units; and

computer code for converting the incoming message into sound by the plurality of mobile units.

12. (new) Computer program product, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

computer code for placing the plurality of mobile units in a receiving mode.

13. (new) Computer program product as recited in claim 2, wherein the computer code for placing the plurality of mobile units in a receiving mode includes computer code for synchronizing the plurality of mobile units to the single time slot .

14. (new) Computer program product as recited in claim 13, wherein the computer code for setting the base station to the broadcast mode includes computer code for designating the single time slot.

15. (new) Computer program product as recited in claim 13 wherein at least one of the plurality of mobile units is a hands free unit, wherein converting the audio message into sound by the hands free unit is automatic, and wherein the placing of the plurality of mobile units in a receiving mode places the plurality of mobile units in a receive only mode.

16. (new) Computer program product, as recited in claim 15, further comprising:
computer code for originating a broadcast signal by the portable unit associated with the callee

transmitting the broadcast ~~origination~~ signal that includes the audio message from the portable unit associated with the callee to the base part.

17. (new) Computer program product as recited in claim 16, wherein computer code for placing the plurality of mobile units in a receive only mode includes computer code for turning on only speakers of the plurality of mobile units without turning on microphones of the plurality of mobile units.

18. (new) Computer program product as recited in claim 10, wherein computer code for setting the base station to the standard mode includes computer code for synchronizing those plurality of mobile units not desiring to converse with the caller to another time slot that is different than the single time slot.